

State of California-Health and Human Services Agency

Department of Health Services



FAQ

Q: Where can I find the information regarding eligibility for the examination?

A: Please go to our website: www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/ls/lfsb/ click "Personnel Licensing" located on the right hand side of the page, and then look for "For information on Clinical Laboratory Scientist or Clinical Laboratory Specialist" located in the middle of the page.

Q: Who do I call with questions regarding application or the online application process?

A: Contact CPS Human Resource Services at 916-263-3624 (Press 4 on your keypad) or clsinfo@cps.ca.gov.

Q: I've submitted my application and fee. How long will it take to process my application?

A: All fully completed applications will be processed approximately 8-10 weeks from time of receipt. Any incomplete applications will be returned to the applicant and cause a delay in the evaluation of the application.

Q: Can I take the exam in another state?

A: The State administered examination is only conducted in California. Certification examination for California licensure may be taken in other states.

Q: Can I apply for the exam without a SSN?

A: A valid social security number (SSN) is mandatory for admission to examination and licensure by the State of California. Contact the U.S. Social Security office for information on obtaining a SSN.

Q: Can LFS assist me in obtaining a Visa so I can take the exam?

A: All international candidates are responsible for obtaining a Visa prior to taking the examination. LFS does not provide assistance in obtaining a Visa. Approval by LFS to take the examination can not be used as a recommendation to INS for the issuance of a Visa.

Q: Are application fees refundable?

A: Application fees are non-refundable. An application submitted without a fee will not be processed.

Q: Can I defer the examination if I paid my application fee, however due to circumstances beyond my control, I was unable to meet the deadline for other documents?

A: No. You have to reapply and pay the fee for the next examination cycle. However, documents received by LFS after the deadline for final documents will be kept in your file for the next examination process.

Q: I have a copy of my transcripts. Can I include that with my application?

A: Transcripts must be sent directly to LFS from the college or university registrar's office.

Q: Can my hospital/laboratory director write a letter of recommendation for me?

A: Verification of training and/or experience must be sent by the hospital or laboratory director on the letterhead of the hospital/laboratory. The training and or experience must match the information provided in the application.

- Q:** If I missed the deadline for submitting my application or supporting documents, can I still take the examination?
- A:** Deadline dates are strictly adhered to by LFS Personnel Licensing Section.
- Q:** Can I reschedule for the next examination cycle if I am not prepared to take the examination?
- A:** No, each examination needs a new application and the required fee.
- Q:** If I fail the examination can I take it again?
- A:** An applicant who has failed the State administered written examination once is eligible to take the examination during the following exam cycle. An applicant who has failed the exam twice has to wait one year to retake the State administered written examination. An applicant who has failed the examination three times or more has to wait two years to retake the State administered written examination and thereafter. (Section 1262.5 Businesses and Professions code).
- Q:** I failed the examination over three years ago; do I have to submit a new transcript and verification of training/experience?
- A:** An applicant who reapplies after three years must resubmit transcripts and other supporting documents.
- Q:** What are the subject areas covered in the California Clinical Laboratory Scientist state-administered examination?
- A:** All licensing examination questions are reviewed by clinical laboratory professionals in California. The questions are of the multiple choice type with four choices for each question but only one correct answer. Subject areas covered in the Clinical Laboratory Scientist (Technologist) generalist licensing examination are as follows: Clinical Chemistry, Immunohematology (blood banking), Hematology, Urinalysis, Parasitology, Serology, Bacteriology, Virology, Mycology, Quality Assurance, Specimen Collection/Phlebotomy and California law. About half of up to 200 examination questions are in the following three subject areas: Clinical Chemistry, Hematology and Bacteriology.